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Docket No.: SON-2894
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Tatsuya KATO, et al

Art Unit: 2652

Application No.: 10/750,813

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: January 5, 2004

Confirmation No. 1619

For: TAPE DRIVE APPARATUS AND
RECORDING AND/OR REPRODUCING
METHOD

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 4 of this paper.